

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03088 051336Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----075450 051338Z /47

O R 051316Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8184
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3088

EXDIS, FROM CHARGE

FOR NEA AND SY/DASS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: LE ASEC APER
SUBJ: AMBASSADOR PARKER'S RETURN TO BEIRUT

REF: STATE 140425 (NOTAL)

1. IN SEPARATE MESSAGE, RSO RECOMMENDS THAT AMBASSADOR PARKER
RETURN ABOUT JUNE 17/18 AND I CONCUR.

2. DEPT SHOULD BE AWARE, HOWEVER, THAT THERE IS GROWING
SPECULATION IN LOCAL PRESS ABOUT AMBASSADOR'S ABSENCE, IN SOME
CASES COUPLED WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT USG FAILURE TO ASSIGN NEW
AMBASSADOR TO SYRIA. WE THEREFORE CONSIDERED POSSIBILITY
OF SUGGESTING THAT AMB RETURN JUNE 8 OR 9, I.E., A FEW
DAYS BEFORE JUNE 13 DATE, RATHER THAN AFTER. GIVEN
ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN ARRANGING FOR AMB'S
RETURN SO SOON AFTER JUNE 8 MEETING AND POSSIBILITY OF SOME
TROUBLE ON JUNE 13, WE DECIDED ON LATER DATES, BUT ANY DELAY
BEYOND JUNE 17/18 WILL UNDOUBTEDLY LEAD TO FURTHER SPECULATION
ABOUT U.S. INTENTIONS IN LEBANON.

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Message Attributes

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